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COLLEGE DECISION DAY SOUTH CAROLINA: EVENTS TO BE HELD DURING APRIL-MAY 2016

COLUMBIA, S.C. – Announcing plans to attend college is a momentous day in the life of a high school senior. To celebrate the academic achievements and choices of our state's high school seniors, the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education is sponsoring *College Decision Day South Carolina*. As part of this statewide initiative, many high schools across our state will be holding events during the months of April and May.

The goal of College Decision Day South Carolina is to recognize high school seniors for their future educational plans and to motivate younger students and families to prepare early for postsecondary education. High schools are encouraged to hold events in the spring to coincide with the time most seniors must inform a college of their plans to enroll. At least 50 events are planned in the 2016 inaugural year, and we look forward to the number growing each successive year.

College Decision Day South Carolina is inspired by the NCAA's National Signing Day to reinforce that excellence in the classroom deserves as much attention as excellence in athletics. Each year, student athletes across the country announce decisions about the their intent to play sports at a specific college. Typically student athletes participate in press conferences and signing ceremonies. College Decision Day South Carolina intends to generate this level of excitement for all students who make the choice to attend college, regardless of their participation in a sport.

High schools can hold various types of events in celebrating College Decision Day. Director of Guidance for Lewisville High School, Ms. Sandra Jordan, shared "when a Lewisville High School senior receives an acceptance letter, he/she brings it to me in the guidance office. I keep a copy in their file, it is announced over the intercom, and posted on the Lewisville High School Facebook page. Most of our students bring me several acceptance letters. We announce each one. I began doing this years ago as a way to celebrate our successes throughout the year and also to serve as a motivation for all our seniors to complete their college applications."

Other traditions are being replicated throughout our high schools to celebrate the important decisions our state's youth are making to invest in their futures through education.

To learn more about College Decision Day South Carolina and to locate individual events, please visit http://sccango.org/college-decision-day/.